

C A M P A I G N F O R
ACCOUNTABILITY

July 23, 2019

By Email: ewoodley@gmu.edu

Elizabeth Woodley, FOIA Compliance Officer
George Mason University
4400 University Dr
Fairfax, VA 22030

Re: Virginia Open Records Request

Dear Ms. Woodley:

I, Julia Long, as a citizen of the Commonwealth (in compliance with such citizenship requirement as described in Va. Code § 2.2-3704(A)) and on behalf of my employer, Campaign for Accountability (“CfA”), make this request for public records, regardless of format, medium, or physical characteristics, and including electronic records and information, audiotapes, videotapes and photographs, pursuant to Va. Code § 2.2-3700 *et seq.*

Specifically, CfA requests copies of all electronic communications to, from, or between any employee or representative of George Mason University (the “University”) or the George Mason University Foundation and any email address from any of the following domains:

- “am.com”;
- “nra.org”;
- “nraila.org”;
- “nrafoundation.org”;
- “nrablog.org”;
- “nrapvf.org”;
- “friendsofnra.org”;
- “nrahq.org”.

This request is for records from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2017.

Where possible, I request that you produce records electronically. If it is your position that any portion of the requested records is exempt from disclosure pursuant to Va. Code §§ 2.2-3705.1 through 2.2-3705.7, please explain in writing the reasons for any determination that a record is exempt from disclosure. In the event that a portion of a requested record is properly exempt from disclosure, but it is possible to redact that portion and produce the remainder of the requested record, please do so. Va. Code § 2.2-3704.01.

CfA is a non-profit organization and seeks the requested information to inform and educate the public about the University's relationship with the NRA and its affiliates. A recent *New York Times* article indicates that interns working for the NRA, which is located approximately 10 minutes from the University, may be paying for interns to live at the University.¹ Specifically, the *New York Times* reported that the NRA paid \$14,000 to house an intern "after housing at a nearby university, where interns typically stayed, became unavailable."² Accordingly, because CfA seeks the information to inform the public about the nature of this relationship, we request that the information be provided without charge. If a fee waiver is not available, please inform me if the cost will exceed \$200.

Please produce the requested records or an update as to the status of said records within five working days, pursuant to Va. Code § 2.2-3704(B). If you foresee any problems in releasing the requested records in whole or in part, please contact me at (202) 780-5750.

If possible, please email the records to me at jlong@campaignforaccountability.org. If the records are mailed, please send them to: Campaign for Accountability, 611 Pennsylvania Avenue SE, #337, Washington, DC 20003.

Finally, I welcome the opportunity to discuss with you whether and to what extent this request can be narrowed or modified to better enable the University to process it.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Julia Long
Campaign for Accountability

¹ Danny Hakim, *At the N.R.A., a Cash Machine Sputtering*, THE NEW YORK TIMES, May 14, 2019, available at <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/14/us/nra-finances-executives-board-members.html>.

² *Id.*